

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the notification of allowable subject matter, i.e. that claim 10 is allowable.

Claims 1, 12, 15, 16, 61 and 62 have been amended, claims 9 and 10 have been cancelled without prejudice, and claims 63 and 64 have been added. No new matter has been added by virtue of the amendments. For instance, support for the amendments appears e.g. in the original claims of the application.

Claims 1, 9, 16, 17, 20, 21, 30, 37-42 and 60-62 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over Barclay et al. (U.S. Patent Publication 2003/0219676).

Claims 12 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Barclay et al. (U.S. Patent Publication 2003/0219676).

Claims 1, 5, 9, 12, 15-17, 21, 30, 37-42 and 60-62 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Takemura et al. (U.S. Patent 5731126).

For the sake of brevity, the three rejections are addressed in combination.

While Applicants disagree with the rejection, it is also believed the rejections have been obviated by the amendments made herein. Thus, claim 1 (the only pending independent claim) has been amended to recite subject matter of former claim 10, which claim was indicated to be allowable.

In view thereof, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are requested.

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It is believed the application is in condition for immediate allowance, which action is
earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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